

# Routes to tour in Germany

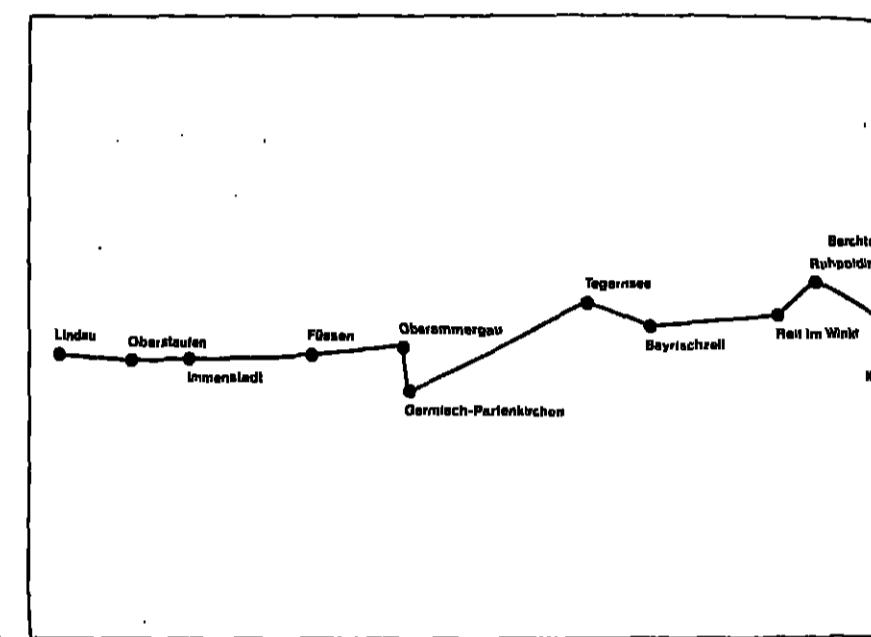
## The German Alpine Route

German roads will get you there — so why not try the Alpine foothills with their impressive view of the Alps in silhouette? The route we recommend is 290 miles long. From it, at altitudes of up to 3,300 ft, you can see well into the mountains.

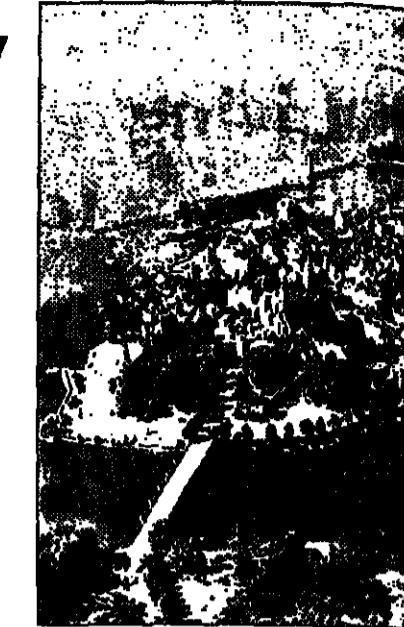
In Germany's deep south viewpoints everywhere beckon you to stop and look. From Lindau on Lake Constance you pass through the western Allgäu plateau to the Allgäu uplands and the Berchtesgaden region. Spas and mountain villages off the beaten track are easily reached via side roads. Winter sports resorts such as Garmisch-Partenkirchen and the Zugspitze, Germany's tallest peak, or Berchtesgaden and the Watzmann must not be missed. Nor must Neuschwanstein, with its fairytale castle, or Oberammergau, home of the world-famous Passion Play.

Visit Germany and let the Alpine Route be your guide.

- 1 Oberammergau
- 2 Königssee
- 3 Lindau
- 4 Neuschwanstein Castle



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## French-German solidarity must recognise differences

**DIE WELT**  
ZEITUNG FÜR POLITIK UND DEUTSCHLAND

The ill feeling between Bonn and Paris over an ambiguous statement by French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas on the military geographical location of the Federal Republic of Germany in Europe will be no more than temporary.

The two sides can be sure to agree to a joint viewpoint on the situation of Germany in Europe and its consequences for joint security policy and by pact structure will continue to exist.

But the upset that arose over M. Du-

### Mubarak taps views on Middle East

President Mubarak of Egypt's tour of Europe has taken him to Belgium, Holland and the Federal Republic of Germany.

He is keen to discuss with his hosts the latest developments in the Middle East, such as Mr Shevardnadze's views on an international conference or the cautious change in US attitudes toward the PLO.

He was particularly hopeful of greater diplomatic support from Bonn. Egypt, which would have an important part to play at a Middle East conference, is keen to stress to the superpowers the importance of the European Community.

Cairo is rated moderate and pro-Western in the Arab world. Yet rumours have it that Egypt too, possibly with the backing of Swiss companies, has tried to make chemical weapons at a works near Cairo.

If there is any truth in these rumours it could mean a serious setback for Egypt's prestige. The Egyptians have hitherto been reliable allies of the West in its clash with Colonel Gaddafi of Libya.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 March 1989)

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mus' statement in Vienna shows that interests are not identical on both sides of the Rhine and that certain differences preordained by geography and by pact structure will continue to exist.

Franco-German solidarity must be based on mutual recognition of these differences, not on surface polish.

That is why the German Federal government must clearly heed the differences that have arisen over the French Foreign Minister's opinion that the Federal Republic must be a "case for special treatment" in European disarmament.

The German Chancellor must make it clear to the French President that such differentiation not only weakens the West's negotiating position vis-à-vis the Warsaw Pact on security and arms control in Europe.

They also harm the special relationship between France and the Federal Republic and are irreconcilable with M. Mitterrand's personal views on the "alliance within an alliance" between France and Germany.

For the French Foreign Minister to make such a comment, open to misunderstanding at the very least, at the inauguration of talks on military security in Europe shows that convergence of ideas in political and strategic thinking between Paris and Bonn has not yet made sufficient headway, let alone reached the point at which it can be taken for granted.

Yet this is not just a Franco-German problem. Britain and the United States have also advocated the re-establishment of an arms control region in Central Europe.

Continued on page 2



Back again after 12 years. Volker Hauff salutes the SPD's success in the Frankfurt city election after 12 years of CDU rule.

(Photo: Sven Simon)

## SPD wins in Frankfurt; right extremists poll 6.6 per cent

The new mayor of Frankfurt will be Social Democrat Volker Hauff, 48. The CDU lost its absolute majority in Germany's financial capital after 12 years when voters chose local governments in the Land of Hesse. The SPD is now the biggest single party in Frankfurt with 40.1 per cent (1985: 38.6 per cent). The CDU polled 36.6 per cent (49.6); the Greens 10.1 (8.0); and the right-wing National Democratic Party (NPD) 6.6 per cent (did not contest in 1985). The Free Democrats got 4.9 per cent up 2.4 per cent but not enough for representation. In the Land as a whole, the CDU dropped about 7 per cent on 1985, to 34.3 per cent; the SPD got 44.8 per cent, up 1.1 per cent; the FDP dropped from 5.3 to 4.9 per cent. The Greens gained 9.1, up from 7.1. The extreme right-wing NPD and Republicans together polled about 2 per cent. (Figures subject to alteration).

Twelve years ago Christian Democrat Walter Wallmann wrested power from the Social Democrats in Frankfurt. That, as everyone later realised, marked the first step toward the CDU/CSU regaining power in Bonn.

Power has now changed hands again in Frankfurt, which seems likely to be governed by a coalition of Social Democrats and Greens. Does this too presage power changing hands in Bonn next year, a general election year? It will mainly be for the

Christian Democrats to answer this question. In Frankfurt, as in Berlin, the Social Democrats regained power without really having won at the polls.

The crucial factors in both cities were the drastic decline in support for the CDU and the alarming gains by extreme right-wing splinter parties.

How is this fraying at the edges to be brought to a halt? Disputes in the quest for the right approach are sure to grow even more heated and vociferous. And they will probably take their toll.

Many people attribute to poor leadership by CDU Chancellor Helmut Kohl and CDU general secretary Heiner Geissler the fact that, only one German city, Stuttgart, is still CDU-ruled. Manfred Rommel, mayor of Stuttgart, is a liberal Christian Democrat.

The first point to make in the aftermath of the Berlin and Hesse polls is that the middle of the road has grown narrower. SPD and CDU now each attract no more than about 40 per cent of voters.

The Free Democrats are teetering above or below the five per cent they need to poll to get into the Bundestag or state assemblies — unlike the Greens, who are now comfortably over five per cent.

On the far right of the political spectrum parties with emotional, nationalist slogans are gaining headway. Gone, or so it would seem, are the days of party-political stability.

Wolfgang Kreyzolin  
(Kiel Nachrichten, 13 March 1989)



Egypt's President Mubarak (left) is greeted on arrival in Bonn by President von Weizsäcker.

(Photo: AP)

## ■ INTERNATIONAL

## Vienna arms talks: a chance for theory and feasibility to meet each other

**Süddeutsche Zeitung**

The good news from Vienna is that for the first time since the outbreak of the Cold War 40 years ago tank and field artillery disarmament seems both desirable in theory and feasible in practice.

The bad news is that the negotiations on conventional disarmament in Europe (NCDE) will be extremely complicated and take ages.

How complicated they are is shown by the course of the talks on mutual balanced force reduction (MBFR) in Central Europe, recently laid to rest in the Austrian capital.

Representatives of Nato and the Warsaw Pact spent 15 years negotiating in Vienna without scrapping a single tank or demobilising a single soldier.

For 15 years, one can but assume, the two parts favoured the status quo more than they favoured change.

Until 1985 they were the years of the Brezhnev ice age, years in which the Soviet Union, as Soviet commentators now admit, "dogmatically" and "subjectivistically" asserted its claim to super-power status by means of an arms buildup.

If the new set of initials stands a better chance than the old, then mainly because of the change in major strategy by the post-Brezhnev Soviet Union.

Staying put and arming to the teeth no longer hold the key to Soviet strategy, having yielded to the slogan of an "economic foreign policy."

Détente is no longer to stand substitute; it is to be the prerequisite for domestic reform.

"Inspector-General" Gorbachov has made cuts in all sectors to strike a tolerable balance between cost and benefit: from Afghanistan to Angola and from nuclear to conventional armament.

He does so not for the West's sake but in the best interest of the Soviet Union as he sees it, which is surely the best of all possible worlds from the viewpoint of negotiations.

Factors that put the MBFR talks to lasting sleep, such as the inability even to agree on existing troop strengths, have melted away in the course of the thaw decreed by Mr Gorbachov.

The Warsaw Pact now officially admits to having not just more but very much more than Nato when it comes to the classic land-based offensive weapons: tanks, armoured personnel carriers and field artillery.

Even more importantly, the Soviet Union has accepted the fundamental Western principle of an "asymmetrical reduction," which in plain words means that those who have more weapons must disarm more.

Third, the Soviet Union aims to establish equal ceilings on both sides, and they are to be between 10 and 15 per cent below what Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze refers to as the lowest (existing) level in a given category in East or West.

To take a practical example, this is what that would entail. According to the East bloc Nato has roughly 30,000 tanks and the Warsaw Pact about

60,000. (Nato figures are 16,000 and 51,000 respectively, by the way.)

On the basis of the Soviet figures a 15-per-cent reduction in the lower, Nato figure, would amount to an equal ceiling of 25,500. In other words, the Warsaw Pact would have to scrap nearly 25,000 tanks to Nato's 4,500.

This equation on the basis of Mr Shevardnadze's target proves two points.

One is that the Soviet Union claims to be prepared to disarm almost to the level envisaged by Nato, which would prefer to see agreement on an equal ceiling of 20,000 tanks each.

The other is that voluntary disarmament to such a radical degree is something the world has yet to see, which is why one must realistically assume that a number of years will elapse between the statement of intent and its implementation.

It is much easier to monitor the scrapping of an entire arms category, such as medium-range missiles, than a tank which stays put in one place while another, somewhere else, is consigned to the shredder.

Droves of inspectors will need to scour member-countries of both pacts, and that too would be unprecedented in the sorry tale of disarmament.

Even so, NCDE is a much more promising set of initials than MBFR proved to be, given that agreement was not even reached on figures, let alone on the key principle that the side which has more weapons in a given category must scrap more of them.

Moscow today has at least accepted these basic Western objectives and demonstrated, with its stated intention of going ahead first with disarmament, that progress, not inertia, is its aim.

So the outlook for Vienna is fine even though the negotiations are sure to be arduous and protracted.

*Josef Joffe  
Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 8 March 1989*

Views may well differ on what is a fighter and what is a bomber. They can, however, hardly differ on Western Europe's need for reliable protection of its transatlantic supply and reinforcement routes to offset the natural geographic superiority enjoyed by the Soviets.

Conversely, it has many more fighter aircraft than Nato, according to its own figures.

It clear in Washington that they preferred not to see Britain, France and Italy within a closer joint arms control framework with the Federal Republic of Germany.

They too have thus drawn a security policy distinction between the Federal Republic of Germany and the rest of Western Europe.

For France, which like Britain has troops stationed in Germany that would be covered by any such agreement, a distinction that would ensure it (and Britain) a treatment other than that envisaged for neighbouring Germany, might be seen as a last security barrier against the effects of arms control.

In Paris, as in London, arms control is more readily acceptable for Germany and the Benelux countries than for French (or British) territory.

As on previous occasions in East-West affairs, Germany is seen to be a special case and, in respect of Nato and Warsaw Pact troops stationed on German soil, a special case where the implementation of arms control is concerned too.

Might they perhaps fear developments in this geopolitical area and aim at establishing a firm position by way of reasserting their freedom of manoeuvre in the event of a crisis?

The mere fact that America has urged

a closely defined regional approach within the continental framework would seem to indicate a US strategic interest in retaining the option of keeping positions in Atlantic, i.e. non-German, Western Europe free from Central European arms control considerations in view of the difficulty in predicting what course the Vienna disarmament talks might take.

That is why the Bonn government's diplomats, in all the figures they skate in Europe, must constantly be aware that the ice there is not as thick as it is further west.

The more German policy is aimed at Central Europe and the more it seeks rapprochement with Eastern Europe, the greater are the risks it must bear in mind.

They can only be covered in the West, and cover is only available at a price.

Given Germany's special situation, it is in the German interest to consolidate Bonn's political and military membership of the West rather than to aim at all-European structures based on doubtful foundations.

*Lothar Rühl  
Die Welt, Bonn, 10 March 1989*

## A difficult role for Bonn to play in Namibia

**DER TAGESSPIEGEL**

The Federal Republic of Germany plays an important part to play in Namibia's transition to independence.

So it is right to talk in good time to the leading political forces in the former German colony illegally administered by South Africa for decades after Pretoria's trusteeship mandate was withdrawn. It goes without saying that the most powerful political grouping among black Namibians is Swapo, which has waged a long guerrilla war against South African rule. So it is only logical to first seek to talk with it.

Yet that has not always been an undisputed viewpoint within the present Bonn government. Talks with Swapo were a theme to the CSU in particular; its late leader Franz Josef Strauss, maintained close ties with South Africa.

Free Democratic Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher never shared such fears of contact with the guerrilla leaders. That is sure to have made it easier for him to forge his present contacts.

But the very fact that CSU Development Aid Minister Hans Klein has conferred with Swapo leader Sam Nujoma shows that the Bonn government is pursuing a clear policy line.

That is important on several counts. Swapo must, for one, be committed to democratic process — and to ensuring Mr Nujoma's pledges are honoured.

Fulfilment of Bonn's development commitments, which will be substantially conditional on an emerging independent Namibia abiding by the UN charter on man rights.

Mr Nujoma voiced fears in Bonn that South Africa might foment a climate of chaos in the final stages of its rule in Namibia.

It is hard to say at the time of writing whether these fears are warranted. At present it looks more like Pretoria is less interested as it is in ensuring that the Germans withdraw from Angola as agreed, than in its fundamentalist wing of the party.

Jutta Difurth too was all gull and wormwood in her final report to the conference, missing not a single opportunity of settling accounts with the party as a whole.

The greatest danger Namibia might face would be for unrest, fomented by whomever, to trigger a white exodus such as had destructive consequences for economic development in Angola and Mozambique when they gained independence.

Bon's difficult tight-rope act consists of retaining the confidence of both black and, above all, the ethnic German white Namibians.

*(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 4 March)*

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Star of the show Ströbele (left); old hands Fischer and Schily (centre); and, looking back in anger, Difurth (right).

(Photo: Wrek, Sven Simon, Spiegel)

## ■ HOME AFFAIRS

## Flowers on the floor: Greens' defeated fundi wings shows its bitterness

A small and slightly embarrassed group of men and women stood on the rostrum of the Rhein-Ruhr-Halle in Duisburg, each holding a large and colourful bunch of flowers.

The conference chairman had asked members of the old national executive, voted out last December, and the acting national executive that took their place for a brief three months to come to the fore.

After the formal acceptance of their reports to successive conferences they were now, in a conciliatory gesture, to be given an official send-off.

She also testified to the extent to which the process of alienation between her and her party had progressed.

Members of the party had wondered in Berlin whether the Social Democrats ought not to be told that there were limits to the concessions the Alternative List was prepared to make. Then, this argument continued, we can retire to the Open position benches.

The Greens had taken a fresh direction and now needed new heroes. Oddly enough, the hero who materialised in Duisburg came from a political quarter that used to be associated with Frau Difurth and her fundamentalist wing of the party.

The star of the show was Hans-Christina Ströbele, grey-haired, in her late 40s, wearing a yellow sweater and a red dress shirt, then referred to the "opportunity of a century" the Greens now had in the next round of the talks with the SPD backed by fellow-Greens.

Who could possibly refuse solidarity with a man who was so clearly intent on scrupulously maintaining the identity of the Greens as an ecological party?

The lengthy applause he was given after a speech lasting half an hour verged on an ovation and made it clear that the Greens had progressed beyond their phase of revolutionism and total opposition.

Most delegates in Duisburg were thinking in terms of possible coalitions with the Social Democrats. They went on to show that a majority of delegates have also learnt to adopt a tactical approach.

Three bids to hold a debate on the possibility of an SPD-Green coalition in Berlin came to grief on points of order.

In other words, a majority of delegates voted against themselves, as it were. The day before they had expressly included a debate on the Berlin coalition talks in the agenda after an hour's discussion.

Herr Ströbele made it easy to scrap this debate by referring to the autonomy of the Greens in their respective Länders, but appeals of this kind would have fallen on deaf ears in days gone by.

Keenly interested in coalition pros and cons the Duisburg delegates may have been, but they decided to agree to disagree.

A majority of delegates prefer to forgo a debate that might have jeopardised and spoilt the "opportunity of a century."

That was a new departure for the Greens, who are plainly no longer simply opposed to whatever happens to be on the agenda.

*Heinz-Peter Finke  
Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 8 March 1989*

## Vogel warns SPD against an over-reaction to success

Opposition leader Hans-Jochen Vogel must be cheered to see the CDU and CSU deeper in trouble than for ages — and unsure what to do about it.

The FDP is worried stiff about being plunged into oblivion, as in Berlin. But the SPD is cook-a-hoop after its unexpected win in Berlin. It can now pick and choose coalition partners.

Herr Vogel is right to warn against euphoria. Success now is largely because of mistakes by the CDU/CSU and the FDP. The SPD, as Herr Vogel's press conference showed, does not have that much to offer.

In Hamburg it governs with the FDP, in Berlin with the Alternative List. In Bonn it has joined forces with the CDU/CSU on pension reform.

All that now matters is to retain these options and be in an equally

pleasant quandary after the general election at the end of next year.

That may be difficult. If the Berlin coalition breaks up the SPD will be badly hit. It can't afford to form too many coalitions with the Greens; that would make people think this is the party's ideal.

The Greens, she said, "are increasingly becoming the appendage of a socialist development toward which they no longer offer joint resistance or an analysis or profile of their own."

"The Greens," she said, "are increasingly becoming the appendage of a socialist development toward which they no longer offer joint resistance or an analysis or profile of their own."

She went on to complain that: "Among the Greens too ecology is degenerating into an environmental technology, with everyone hastily claiming to be able to carry out the best repair job."

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*Heinz-Peter Finke  
Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 6 March 1989*

## ■ THE ARMED FORCES

## The man who keeps in contact with the troops

Ten years after the war politicians in Bonn had to make a most difficult decision. They had to set up a new army to a new pattern, in a different political and social context, to defend our young democracy. In the future the primacy of politics was to go unchallenged.

Apart from new legislation this made necessary the setting up of new control mechanisms for the armed forces.

Thirty years ago, the Bundestag created the office of Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces or Defence Commissioner, the only appointment of its kind in the world.

Helmut von Grolmann, a former lieutenant-general and an economist, was appointed by the Bundestag to be the first Commissioner. He had the most elementary conditions under which to build up his office.

In his first report as Defence Commissioner he described the difficulties he had in selecting and appointing staff. Helmut von Grolmann was a former state secretary in the Lower Saxony Ministry for Expellees.

He was voted to be the first Commissioner on 19 February 1959 with 363 for, 16 against and 32 abstentions. On 20 March he was sworn into his office, which mainly involved him being the long arm of the Bundestag in the affairs of the armed forces. He officially began his appointment on 3 April 1959.

The job was to make "meaningful contact with the troops possible without any red-tape." Six months later Grolmann presented his first report.

A single official handled 3,300 petitions, who had to accompany the Defence Commissioner on his visits to the troops. The all-round department was manned by just two officials.

The Commissioner's office is now in Bad Godesberg, directly overlooking the Rhine. The present incumbent of the office of Defence Commissioner, the sixth to do so, is Willi Weiskirch, 66.

He has a staff of 65 and last year 30 of his officials processed 8,531 petitions exactly.

Over the past 30 years the responsibilities of the Commissioner's office, as laid down in Article 45 b of Basic Law, have not changed. Like his predecessors Weiskirch is appointed "to safeguard the basic rights and to assist the Bundestag in exercising parliamentary control."

His authority is established in legislation covering the Defence Commissioner.

According to Paragraph 2, Section 1 of this legislation the Defence Commissioner, on instructions from the Bundestag or the Bundestag's Defence Committee, has to look into specific occurrences with appropriate discretion.

Soldiers in the Federal Republic are conscripts so a certain amount of compulsion is involved in their military service. One of the Defence Commissioner's important responsibilities is to safeguard their basic rights.

These include human dignity, the right to the free development of the personality, to life, physical integrity and freedom. The Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces is also concerned with the protection of marriage and the family, the privacy of the posts and the right to petition.

On the other hand some basic rights are restricted, for example the right to freedom of movement and freedom of assembly. In the early years of the Defence Commissioner's appointment there was considerable discussion inside and outside the armed forces of "Internal Leadership." The citizen in uniform should perform his duties according to new modes of leadership.

Military leaders were expected to respect the freedoms soldiers have and restrict to the essentials strains on the individual, in the service of the state, and the public at large, in contrast to the unconditional obedience of the Hitler era.

The aim of the military command is to create a disciplined body of troops, internally stable, who side with democracy. There have been, and are still however, frictions.

Apart from the armed forces complaints arrangements every soldier can turn to the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces without prior reference to his commanding officer, if he feels that he is not getting his rights.

The Defence Commissioner's annual report, to which much attention is given, gives an insight into the kind of matters which are brought to his attention.

Weiskirch is an invalid and so does not yet have a car telephone. Often he can be seen standing in a telephone box at a motorway service station, altering his appointments because he has been talking too long with soldiers in their canteen.

Weiskirch hears from all servicemen, irrespective of rank, that training together with the Bundeswehr's vocational training scheme, is too bound by red-tape and the financial support is not used to the best advantage.

Weiskirch is not beyond ringing up the head of a company when it involves helping a soldier, who has applied for a job in the company and has not got it because he still has eight weeks to serve in the army.

"There must be more flexibility and readiness to cooperate between industry, the administration and the armed forces," Willi Weiskirch said.

"If the company was prepared to wait four weeks and the army was prepared to let the soldier go four weeks early, everyone concerned would be helped," he said.

The latest report from the Defence Commissioner was recently laid before Parliament. Willi Weiskirch stated that

### RHEINISCHER MERKUR

last year there was a curtail tone in the armed forces. This had improved in comparison with previous years but there was still much to be done in the dealings between superiors and men.

The Defence Commissioner's complaints have led to concrete decisions concerning the armed forces. In future officers and NCOs will be briefed on how to deal with their subordinates in special seminars.

The new report includes yet again a whole series of sensational offences.

An airborne unit in Passau, for example, the public prosecutor was called in after the Defence Commissioner's intervention.

Superiors in the company had organised a so-called "fancy-dress ball" in which young soldiers were forced to wear various uniforms, and appear at the double, although there was no convincing reason why they should have done this.

In the same unit soldiers with bandaged, broken arms had to take part in training marches.

During the investigation it was also revealed that recruits were given a real

bawling out at the barrack gateway on the day they were called-up. While still wearing civilian clothes they were yelled at to stand to attention and hounded through the barracks at the double.

The judge handed down ten sentences for this breach of duty. Senior military officers imposed an impressive number of disciplinary measures. In Weiskirch's view harassment of this kind is not suitable for motivating the men.

Weiskirch goes on his visits to the troops in his old Mercedes 230. He was a lance-corporal in the war and was wounded. When he is in the barracks he talks to the ordinary soldiers about their food, pay and other quite ordinary matters.

Commanders usually get an uncomfortable feeling when he makes an appearance. Their first fears are that when the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces turns up then something must have happened.

But that is often not the case. Weiskirch sees himself as the mediator between the Defence Ministry, the troops on the spot and Parliament.

He takes the services, which are coming up for more and more criticism in public, under his protection.

Willi Weiskirch said: "It is not the soldier's responsibility to justify himself to the world at large, but the duty of the politicians who have given him his orders."

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The soldiers' friend... Commissioner Weiskirch.

(Photo: Spiegel)

## Unrest in the ranks, says commissioner

Willi Weiskirch, the Bundeswehr Defence Commissioner, believes that politicians must do more to protect soldiers in the Bundeswehr, the army.

When presenting his annual report, Bonn he said that with the dwindling acceptance of the Bundeswehr and its defence responsibilities, there was widespread unrest among regular soldiers and conscripts.

Many felt that the politicians had them down. There were complaints among soldiers that their friends increasingly turned their backs on them, regarding servicemen as "disturbances of peace."

Weiskirch said that even in criticising defence policies the soldier's voice should not be brought into consideration.

After the accidents at Ramstein & Remscheid the discussion on how to preserve a lasting peace had gone along lines which made servicemen uneasy.

Once more Weiskirch took up a member of infringements of human dignity among ordinary soldiers in his annual report. He pointed out, however, that these cases should not be taken as a general state of affairs in the armed forces.

He said that the atmosphere in the Bundeswehr was determined by its spectacular cases.

This involved more a large number of cases of weak leadership; shortcoming and thoughtlessness in routine military life, which constantly coloured the internal make-up of the armed forces. They made many soldiers look upon the things they spent in the service with distaste.

Weiskirch demanded that "political training in the armed forces should be taken seriously. More and more frequently training of this sort was cut because it could not be fitted into the training route. This should not be allowed."

If parents, schools and youth associations refrained from explaining the significance of the military service then the armed forces themselves must take on the job.

Defence Commissioner Weiskirch was critical of that there were still cases in 1988 of superiors trying to prevent complainants getting in touch with the Defence Commissioner. Last year 1,000 petitions were received by his office.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 9 March)

## ■ PERSPECTIVE

## Towards a multicultural society: a politician talks about the way ahead

The election in West Berlin last month in which the extreme right-wing Republicans won over 7.5 per cent of the vote on an anti-foreigners platform shows that there are problems developing between Germans and foreigners living in Germany. Stuttgart's mayor, Manfred Rommel, calls for more liberal attitudes in this article for the Hamburg weekly, *Die Zeit*.

Furthermore, a decline in the German population in the cities is virtually pre-programmed due to the increase in the overall percentage of old people and the low birth rate.

The most pessimistic of three variants of a population forecast for the city of Stuttgart claims that the population figure will decrease from its current level of 560,000 to a figure of 280,000.

Such forecasts, however, are no more than extrapolations of probabilities.

However, one thing is certain: children born in German families during recent years cannot suddenly appear as a whole or because of a lack of inhabitants.

I cannot imagine a situation in which major areas of economic activity in the Federal Republic of Germany decline and waste away because of an increased share of old people in the population as a whole or because of a lack of inhabitants.

I share the optimistic hope that the European states will continue to grow closer together and that one day a European community of states will evolve.

Courageous steps along the road to Europe have already been taken, and a further major step is in sight: the realisation of the single European Community market by the end of 1992.

Unemployment, for which a patent remedy has yet to be found, and the growing displacement of simple labour operations by machines will probably lead to greater manpower mobility.

For some time now I have advocated an improvement and a reinforcement of the legal positions of those foreign fellow citizens who have been legally residing in the Federal Republic of Germany for many years.

I do not regard these foreigners as guests, a term used by a man whom I otherwise respect most highly, the chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary party in the Bundestag, Alfred Dregger, since guests only stay in different places for a short while. This, however, does not apply to the majority of foreigners.

A growing number of foreigners have no intention of leaving the Federal Republic of Germany.

Many of them who were born, educated and have grown up here, would be viewed as aliens in the country whose nationality they bear.

What is more, we should, in view of the shape Europe is taking, consider a solution of dual nationality.

Wouldn't it make sense for German subjects to foster the culture of their country of origin?

That is what I regard as a multicultural society. Our cities would acquire greater cultural diversity and become more cosmopolitan, a situation which befits a country located in the heart of Europe and engaged in trade with the whole world.

Germany needs friends in a united Europe. We cannot win friends just by being hard-working. We are the only ones who doubt that this is true.

We can best win friends by trying to belong to the European nations.

The right of foreigners to vote in and stand for local government elections is highly problematic.

I regard the introduction of such a right as incompatible with the West German constitution.

Furthermore, I feel that this right is a political alibi, it doesn't help foreigners that much, since the decisions which concern them most are taken at a higher level, in the state assemblies or in the Bundestag.

What is more, political activity by foreigners in the Federal Republic of Germany could lead to considerable problems for these foreigners in their native countries without the Federal Republic of Germany being able to adequately

Continued on page 13

The main thing is where people live their lives and where their hearts are.

After publishing my views on this subject I received numerous, mainly anonymous, letters of abuse.

As I expected this anyway I responded with equanimity, since I feel that a man in my position must be able to face up to criticism.

Some of them described me as a fat swine, an accusation which has been refuted by the fact that I've lost eleven kilograms in weight during recent months.

Others expressed their doubts about whether I am in fact the son of my father, especially as I bear little resemblance to him.

There were even suggestions that there was a mix-up in the hospital and that my mother took the wrong child.

Such insults don't bother me at all. The disturbing aspect, however, is why a few citizens feel that national egotism is a patriotic duty.

One would have thought that patriotism is reflected in the willingness to help one's own nation rather than harming members of other nations.

In a world which is growing closer together, however, this is generally only possible by also helping members of other nations.

## Citizenship

A Polish authoress recommends that we should deal with big problems while they are still small.

Admittedly, it is not always clear that small problems can turn into really big ones.

In the case of the foreigners living in the Federal Republic of Germany the situation is different. The problems in this context are no longer small.

I would limit the conferment of German nationality while retaining foreign nationality only.

I am aware of the fact that agreement was reached in the Council of Europe in 1963 to try and prevent dual nationalities. Yet haven't things developed since then?

Aren't the Württemberg, Prussian and Bavarian citizenships a thing of the past?

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## ■ COMPUTER SPYING

### Phone bill error exposed link with KGB

One of the most serious cases of KGB espionage in Germany for years began in a Hanover apartment where a group of four hackers — computer freaks — tried to break and enter into US Army, Navy and Air Force computer systems using the usual equipment: a home computer, a telephone and a link between them.

Before long they had worked out the passwords that gained them access to the computer at USAF Ramstein, the nuclear armament and SDI research facilities at Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore and the computers of major research facilities such as Cern in Geneva, Desy in Hamburg, the Max Planck Nuclear Physics Institute in Heidelberg and NASA in the United States.

Other computer facilities raided were the Darmstadt unit of Esa, the European Space Agency, the Oberpfaffenhoefen, Munich, centre of the German Aerospace Research Establishment (DFVLR) and a comparable US facility in Pasadena, California.

The Hanover hackers even gained access to Optimis, the Pentagon data bank.

The turntable of their illegal activity was, for a while, the computer of Loewe Opta, an entertainment electronics manufacturer in Kronach, Bavaria.

Loewe Opta spokesman Bernd von zur Mühlen says the hackers gained access to the company's computer early last summer with a view not to tapping or changing data but to using it as an "intermediate facility."

They used the Loewe Opta computer as a stepping stone to other data systems. The advantage was that any further moves appeared to be enquiries from Loewe Opta rather than the depredations of unknown hackers. Tracks were thus covered.

Mühlen says the company's computer security precautions have since been updated to virtually rule out any further activity of this kind.

The Hanover hackers started to root around in other people's computer systems out of sheer curiosity. They welcomed the challenge of outsmarting the computers' security staff and locating the weak spots in a system.

That was when the KGB arrived on the scene. German KGB informers evidently

persuaded the computer freaks to collaborate with the Soviet espionage agency.

They are said to have made use of the narcotics dependence of at least one of the young hackers. The hackers did more than gain access to computer systems; they also "stole" secret military data.

The first information is said to have been sold to the Russians in September 1986. It consisted of the latest electronic access to the data network between Europe and the United States.

The hackers are said to have been paid several hundred thousand marks in all.

A Harvard professor, astronomer and computer expert, Clifford Stoll, gave the crucial tip that led to the hackers being caught.

He claimed back in 1986 that there were signs of illegal activity, but no-one took his warnings seriously.

In the computer of the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in California, a facility shared by several companies, he had noticed a seemingly unspectacular discrepancy of 75 cents in a telephone bill.

As he tried to find out the reason for this discrepancy he noticed that someone was trying to gain entry to the data bank via the telephone line.

He spent four months checking what the hacker entered into the system and discovered that he was looking for keywords such as ICBM, Norad and SDI.

Professor Stoll invented military data and lured the hackers into a sham computer network he dubbed SDI Net.

The hackers rose to the bait and spent two hours browsing through the bogus data — long enough to trace them back across the Atlantic to Hanover.

Three months later, he says, he received a letter requesting information about the SDI Net.

He sent the letter to the FBI, which discovered that the sender had links with Eastern Europe.

Laszlo Balogh from Pittsburgh, Pa., is suspected of a wide range of criminal activities, including the theft of computers he is said to have sold to the Soviet Union.

The security authorities in the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany sounded the alarm, but no connection between Balogh and the Hanover hackers came to light.

Investigations did not yield results until two of the hackers admitted to having supplied a KGB officer working as an attaché at the Soviet trade mission in East Berlin with computer data.

The KGB was easily supplied with information. The hackers travelled to West Berlin, took the S-Bahn to Friedrichstrasse station in East Berlin where they handed over the goods to their principals.

(Nürnberg Nachrichten, 4 March 1989)

## 'So much information that Russians couldn't cope'

There are over 1,000 hackers in the Federal Republic of Germany, computer freaks whose ambition is to outsmart safety precautions and gain access to public sector, research institute and industrial computers.

Most hackers do it as a hobby. Several of them, in Hanover and Berlin, "broke into" some of the most important computer systems in the West — and sold data to the KGB.

"That," says Gerhard Boedden, head of the *Verfassungsschutz*, Germany's Cologne-based counter-espionage agency, "is an entirely new dimension of espionage."

After months of preliminary investigations the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, the *Bundeskriminalamt* and state CID's in Hanover, Hamburg and Berlin noted that the GDR has lately improved in this sector.

In keeping with other Western counter-espionage agencies the *Verfassungsschutz* had long been expecting East Bloc intelligence agencies to try and gain access to large-scale computers in the West.

Arrest warrants were first issued for two of them, an informatics student in Hanover and a Bundeswehr deserter in Berlin.

"Computer espionage leaves few if any traces," one security official says. "What can be proved at the end of the day is the issue at stake."

Proof being the problem, the public prosecutor's office prefers, for the time being, to refer to a "fairly important case."

Its spokesman, Alexander Prechtel, says that as far as can so far be judged the hackers merely succeeded in gaining access to "peripheral sectors" of large-scale computer systems.

Access is based on the onion-skin principle. A fairly large number of people have access to unclassified information. The more classified the material is, the more complex the access codes.

As far as is so far known, the hackers gained access to the computers of the US general staff, NASA, Esa in Darmstadt, Cern in Geneva, Desy in Hamburg, the German Aerospace Research Establishment in Munich, the Max Planck Molecular Biology Research Centre in Heidelberg and several electronics companies, such as Thomson-Brandt, Philips, SEL, Loewe Opta.

The security authorities in the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany sounded the alarm, but no connection between Balogh and the Hanover hackers came to light.

The crucial question is how far they managed to penetrate the hierarchical arrangement of the various computer systems.

The data tapped in this way was transferred to hand floppy discs and handed over to a company in Leipzig's Strasse, East Berlin, at regular meetings.

The East Berlin firm is suspected of being a cover for the KGB. The computer data handed over was so substantial that

KGB agents were unable to cope with sheer quantity. So the hackers were instructed to supply nothing but data on specific subjects as requested and the principals were interested in the secret codes.

"They were evidently keen to gain access to the computers themselves," Western security official says.

The hackers are also said to have spied construction plans for microchips and copies of computer-assisted design and manufacturing programmes. Grammes of this kind play a crucial part in controlling industrial robots. Experts have noted that the GDR has lately improved in this sector.

In keeping with other Western counter-espionage agencies the *Verfassungsschutz* had long been expecting East Bloc intelligence agencies to try and gain access to large-scale computers in the West.

As a Cologne official puts it: "All data stored in computers. Once you're in, the system, the choice is yours."

Many computer operators shrugged off warnings. Their codes, they自信地 claimed, were unbreakable.

This self-assurance was dealt a blow in autumn 1987 when the CCC Computer Club (CCC) in Hamburg proved to the *Verfassungsschutz* that several of its members had hacked their way into the NASA computer.

Last spring the *Bundeskriminalamt* closer look at several CCC hackers were said to have "broken and entered" Philips and Thomson-Brandt computers.

The proceedings were shelved. That quickly went abroad after he had finished his training in hotel management.

He is a born "go-getter." The first thing he tackled was a steak-house in Hamburg.

Block proposes to put the wealth of experience he has gained in this sector into a new kind of "eatery," which will be something above the McDonalds fast-food restaurants. Two of these ventures have been opened in Hamburg, more to follow.

Block's second major coup has not had the teeth problems which he has had with "Jim Beef." Although everyone who had been fired with Block's optimism had expected more.

Block fulfilled a dream of his youth with the luxury Elysée Hotel which was opened in 1985. The 600-bed Hamburg hotel is booked up 92 per cent of the time and brings in DM40m in turnover, half of which comes from accommodation and food. It has yielded "very good profits" since 1986.

## ■ BUSINESS

### Juicy returns from staking out a claim in steaks



Elysée

## ■ AEROSPACE

## Bonn makes available cash for hypersonic project

**Frankfurter Allgemeine**

**G**erman-American aerospace research scientist Kraft A. Ehricke described flying on board a high-altitude hypersonic airliner at between six and 12 times the speed of sound in glowing terms back in 1981.

"Passengers," he wrote, "will have a pleasant foretaste of space travel. The rocket engines will switch off eight to 15 minutes after take-off, by which time the airliner will have reached an altitude of between 30 and 45 km."

The airliner will now head toward its destination without further propulsion in a no-man's land between Earth and space.

"About 100 km before reaching its destination it will slow down to below the speed of sound. The captain will switch on the turbofan engines and land the craft in the conventional manner."

Professor Ehricke envisaged a hypersonic airliner flying from London to Sydney in a mere hour or two. A kind of euphoria about the prospects for hypersonic passenger airliners has prevailed since the early 1980s.

Supersonic airliners such as the Anglo-French Concorde, which flew its first test mission 20 years ago, on 2 March

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Cutting costs. The Sänger project aims at sharply cutting cost of space transport.

Trace gases may only be found in minute quantities in the atmosphere, but they save us from a climate worse than death.

Were they not there to shield us from cosmic radiation, for one, the surface of the Earth would resemble the bleak and desolate wastes of neighbouring Mars.

Some of them have an effect similar to that of the plate glass of a greenhouse (which led to the term "greenhouse effect").

Due to their protective shield the Earth's mean surface temperature is +15°C. Were they not there this temperature would be -18°C.

Yet this protective umbrella gives cause for alarm now the concentration of trace gases in the upper atmosphere is on the increase due to human influence — and the mean temperature is on the increase too.

It has happened before. Since the end of the Pleistocene period between 10,000 and 14,000 years ago the mean surface temperature has increased by between three and five degrees centigrade, albeit over a period of several thousand years.

The threat this poses to the Earth's atmosphere has triggered both scientific and political concern. It was an issue discussed by European Community Environment Ministers at their last meeting, for instance.

There is more to it than the hole that CFC gas is said to have punched into the ozone layer.

Scientists are discovering a growing number of gaps in our knowledge about and ability to account for what is going on in the atmosphere.

Several were discussed at the 57th Dahlem Conference in Berlin, which dealt with the Exchange of Trace Gases between the Biosphere and the Atmosphere.

Crude oil contains anything up to six per cent sulphur, which is released into the atmosphere as sulphur dioxide after the oil has been burnt.

In the atmosphere it combines with water to become sulphuric acid, which as acid rain wreaks havoc on buildings and vegetation.

Desulphurising equipment is only available for large-scale sources of static emission, such as industrial and power station smokestacks.

Sulphur is emitted unfiltered into the atmosphere from central heating burners and coal fires.

Professor Harald Suhr and his associates at Tübingen University organic chemistry department have devised a desulphurising process mainly intended for use by small-scale sources of sulphur emissions.

In their case conventional equipment designed for large-scale plant would neither be practicable nor merit the expense.

The excited oxygen molecules react with the sulphur compounds in the crude oil, oxidising them. Oxidised sulphur compounds are insoluble and can be filtered.

Petroleum desulphurising processes already exist, but they all have serious drawbacks.

The petroleum has to be evaporated, at a high cost in fuel and power terms, so that it can be desulphurised by catalysts.

These catalysts tend to be put out of action by heavy metals such as nickel or vanadium, traces of which are frequent-

## ■ THE ENVIRONMENT

## The serious matter of laughing and other protective trace gases

**RHEINISCHER MERKUR**

Mainz, we can only guess at what accounts for the increasing amount of laughing gas in the atmosphere. We simply don't know where it comes from."

Vaguely, based on longitudinal measurements, the assumption is that most of this N<sub>2</sub>O must originate from tropical soil.

Previous assumptions, such as that it was a result of agricultural fertiliser use and of setting fire to tropical rain forests prior to alternative modes of cultivation, have been shown to be in need of revision.

"Methodical errors in N<sub>2</sub>O measurement," Professor Andreie said, "have been shown probably to have led to these sources being greatly overestimated."

Laughing gas is leaked, as it were, into the soil when ammonia is oxidised and nitrates are broken down.

Yet in this, as in other contexts, research scientists prefer to be more diffident about previous fundamental assumptions, especially since the way in which N<sub>2</sub>O production by termites was extrapolated has become more generally known.

Experiments were undertaken in which the output of a single termite was measured," one research scientist in Berlin explained.

"They then estimated how many ter-

Tübingen University chemists have spent nearly 10 years in "absolutely virgin technological territory" devising a new procedure by which to extract sulphur from petroleum.

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creasing grinding to a halt at some stage or other.

It might be when the number of heads of cattle (whose stomachs are said to be a relevant source of methane) has passed its peak, or other climatic reaction processes take effect.

Konstanz University biologist Professor Ralf Conrad told the conference there were also signs that soil might function as a methane depression, perhaps not to any great extent, but to some extent nonetheless.

"As always, however," Professor Conrad said, "we don't have enough data."

Unexpected developments were reported in respect of nitric oxides, which have been the subject of frequent research in recent years as scientists have been commissioned to investigate smog.

Static (power station smokestack) and vehicle NO<sub>x</sub> emission, via nitro-hydrochloric acid a major cause of acid rain, has been found not just to rise skyward from the surface of the Earth.

From a certain concentration on it heads back to the surface of the Earth, but not as NO<sub>x</sub> molecules, which readily react with other elements.

"Their chemical reaction time is roughly the same as the time it takes the weather to transport them," an atmospheric chemist said.

The reason why this effect has only just been discovered is that concentrations vary in space and time. Besides, experimental measurements in the first 10 metres above ground-level are extremely difficult on account of frequent turbulence.

Our fundamental knowledge in the field of micrometeorology, as scientists shamelessly admitted at the Dahlem conference, dates back to 1930s experiments on the spread of poison gas.

Münchener Merkur Christ und Welt,  
Rheinischer Merkur Christ und Welt,  
Bonn, 3 March 1989

## New method of cleaning up oil combustion

petrol or heating oil. The sulphur-enriched petroleum can only be used by large-scale consumers with suitable smokestack desulphurising plant.

The crucial advantages of the new process are its low energy consumption, the easy way in which the oxidised sulphur compounds can be filtered and the fuel that it can be used for crude oil of all kinds.

The research project has been successfully completed, but converting it into an industrial technique will involve hard work that still lies ahead.

"We work with grams in the laboratory. For the process to work on an industrial scale we would need to increase the quantities handled 1,000,000-fold."

"That won't be done in one stage; it will take three or four. And fresh problems are likely to arise at each stage," says Professor Suhr.

Since developing the process on an industrial scale is beyond the scope of a university department he is now keen to enlist the support of the petrochemical industry. Its interest will largely depend on how economic the process is.

Professor Suhr and petroleum experts have costed the process. His cautious assessment of the position is that: "We are definitely not entirely out of the running."

For the time being, however, refiners will not be as keen as mustard to develop their technique. Oil prices are low, oil is readily available, and they can afford to buy low-sulphur grades.

But, as he says: "Oil prices are sure to increase again, and desulphurising techniques will be urgently needed. What is more, neither research nor industry can simply pull such complex processes straight out of a hat."

Rolf A. Zell  
(Die Welt, Bonn, 2 March 1989)

Continued from page 7.  
stock company, Block will make this change when the airline has got over its teething troubles and management in all departments has been strengthened. Block himself will move to the supervisory board.

He said that the basic capital would be increased 100 per cent. His desire to remain independent hampers him from going to the stock exchange. Only the banks want a swift stock exchange flotation, Block said, because they earn the most in that way.

From 2010, Japanese experts forecast, world demand for hypersonic passenger airliners will amount to between 500 and 1,000 units.

"At present," said Professor Andi Andreie of the biogeochemistry department at the Max Planck Chemistry Institute in

Similar studies have been commissioned in Japan, where the Ministry of Industry has earmarked \$2m in the financial year toward the cost of initial hypersonic research.

This is merely the first step in a \$520m research programme for which the concept has already been drawn up.

The overall trace gas count is on the increase, 50-odd atmospheric chemists, microbiologists and meteorologists from all over the world soon agreed in Berlin.

Where and how were the problems (or where the problems started). Laughing gas (N<sub>2</sub>O), for instance, sends between three and four million tonnes of nitrogen a year skywards.

These catalysts tend to be put out of action by heavy metals such as nickel or vanadium, traces of which are frequent-

ly found in crude oil. Besides, by no means all petroleum components can be desulphurised by means of existing processes.

Desulphurising equipment is only available for large-scale sources of static emission, such as industrial and power station smokestacks.

Sulphur is emitted unfiltered into the atmosphere from central heating burners and coal fires.

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## ■ TELEVISION/FILMS

## The life and death of Hemingway, if not that much to do with his writing

## RHEINISCHE POST

**D**irector Bernhard Sinkel admits that from the beginning he stood a little in awe of his hero, the American writer and Nobel Prize-winner Ernest Hemingway.

Sinkel said that since the student protest of 1968 he has found the macho-type rather unpleasant.

Nevertheless he has made a four-part television series about Hemingway, the quintessence of manliness.

Sinkel said: "I stood in front of the monument to Hemingway in Pamplona and thought: if he were alive today he would treat me with total contempt."

But there's no going back. Eventually a unique project appeared on the horizon: the first European TV production with American participation.

Never before has American money been put into a project which was not entirely in American hands.

But that was not all. A German director was entrusted with the TV series on Hemingway's life, which in fact is the first film to have been made about Hemingway.

Trouble started long before shooting began. Sinkel shot the six-and-a-half-hour film in five months, on nine locations, with five different teams, an international cast and financing from six sources.

Germany's Second television Channel provided DM4.5 million, the French TF 1 chipped in 20 million francs and further funds were provided by Italy's RAI, Britain's Channel Four and Austria's ORF.

Half of the DM35 million production costs came from American banks, and they brought a lot of pressure to bear.

The American filming team also made their presence felt. They wanted Sinkel to gear the visual aspects of the film to American audiences. They expected scenes to be short, plenty of action and close-ups of the main actors.

American actor Stacy Keach, who plays Hemingway, also had his say. He was afraid that his popularity in America would suffer and wanted to present only the more pleasant aspects of Hemingway's character. He was also very high-handed in altering his own lines.

Camera work and film script remained as planned. But Sinkel only authorised the German version. American TV companies shortened it by 250 minutes.

The reactions in America to the film were extraordinary. The press said it was a "very European film" and gave considerable praise to cameraman Wolfgang Treu. The viewing figures were impressive.

The series has now been shown on West Germany's Second Television Channel in four parts, each part 100 minutes in length.

Sinkel told the press in Hamburg that he was happy about the film. It was a German film, he said, conceived in the Federal Republic but shot in English, "a transatlantic film as Hemingway himself was a transatlantic writer."

The series had merits and failures. The script missed out some famous

Hemingway locations and some of the people who played an important role in his life.

Gregory, Hemingway's third son, is mentioned but he never appears on screen. He is suing the production company.

The film team was never given permission to film in the Hemingway Bar in the Ritz in Paris. Venice, an important city for Hemingway, the tireless traveller, was too expensive.

The Cubans dawdled so long granting permission to film in the Hemingway home in Havana that it came too late. Because time was pressing a copy of the house was built in Puerto Rico.

Sinkel's film is based on reports by eyewitnesses and relatives, Hemingway's letters, the Hemingway biography by Carlos Baker, and Hemingway's own books.

Sinkel had not read them since his schooldays; now he can see how closely Hemingway's life and his books are related to one another.

Nevertheless his script does not follow Hemingway's career as a writer, but rather the four Hemingway marriages.

The script was triggered off by a comment made by American writer John Dos Passos. He said that Hemingway needed a new woman for every new book.

All this is presented in the film gorgeously and colourfully, only Keach hesitates to fill out the huge character he plays.

His Hemingway develops thanks to male playthings: large-bore rifles, splendid fishing and batteries of whiskey glasses, uniforms, black bulls, and lovely women, of course.

Sumptuous sequences of this sort achieve what Keach fails to create: the "he-man," the devil of a fellow, the thoroughbred character. The overwhelming scenes underline how all this is lacking in Keach's performance.

The years of poverty in Paris and Engadine are changed to adventures in Africa and being famous people in Key West, where the couple became a tourist attraction.

Hemingway is successful as a writer of the masculine rituals of fishing, hunting, drinking and travelling. Social problems leave him cold.

This all changes with his third wife Martha (Lisa Barnes), a young journalist, who is critical, ironic and ambitious.

Pauline's magic pales beside Martha, whose social and political involvement fascinates Hemingway.

Mary, Martha's successor, played by Pamela Reed, is like Martha, a cool blonde.

Since he is already in Europe, he gets involved in war again, tastes life to the full, challenges death: death, one of Hemingway's major themes.

In Paris one of the few Germans in the cast makes an appearance, Rosel Zoch, as a rather unerotic Marlene Dietrich, singing "Lili Marlene."

The war was over — the war scenes were not very well done; they had the smell of papier-mâché and the studio about them — Hemingway went on to enjoy life boisterously.

The last episode describes his decline. Drink, latent melancholy, painful memories of childhood with his mother and diffident doctor father nibble away at the supports of his life.

Keach has some touching moments. The underlying theme of the film is fulfilled: "no-one is really free until he has looked death in the eye."

The lion-hunter, the bull-fighting minstrel, the war correspondent, who "loved fighting even though it can be nasty," goes to a lot of trouble to find his own death.

Elke Jonigkeit spent many months in Afghanistan, living and talking to women, in Kabul and refugee camps. In Pakistan.

Her experiences form the contents of her film *Tschadari & Buz Kaschi* (Veiling and horsemanship). Afghan women today try to find an emancipated role — *Exile in USA*.

They have created a marvellous collage of Brecht's life in America between the years 1941 and 1947 from inter-

views, photos, text and film material.

Many details are well-known, but that does not detract from the value of the film in any way.

It includes some unique footage from the premiere in New York of *Gallien* with Charles Laughton in the title role.

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This trend has continued in the productions made during 1988/1989.

Norbert Bunge and Christine Fischer-Defoy have collected together an enormous amount of material for their documentary *My name is Bertolt Brecht — Exile in USA*.

They have created a marvellous collage of Brecht's life in America between the years 1941 and 1947 from inter-



Before the bang, Stacy Keach as Hemingway.  
(Photo: ZDF)

## ■ EXHIBITIONS

## Where the paths of art and the new technology cross

The arts usually have no place in industrial and computer fairs. They have their own fairs, although admittedly they are penetrated by the sober spirit of commerce.

But here they now are, works of art from the new technological imagination, media-inspired.

They are to be seen at CeBit '89 in Hanover, calm and superior, next to telecommunications and defence technology exhibits, along with office and computer technology, between hard and software.

Their exhibition is called "Artware." Could any other name be more appropriate? They are, among other things, colour-compositions, computer-controlled laser animations, computer-generated, radiographs, scanochromes, CAD (Computer Assisted Design) and much more, which amaze equally technicians and art lovers, and marginally language researchers.

Obviously art today is moving towards technology, not "towards bread" (as the means of a livelihood) as it did in Goeth's time.

The critics are already up in arms. They are asking if these colour compositions are art or kitsch?

But this is art and technology, art and the new media, the transference from

one to the other is irreversible. The range of technological-artistic forms of expression is constantly expanding.

The new technology's deviation towards art and vice versa is not new. There is a long tradition for this.

Former pugnacious sisters, such as

photography and painting, television

and videos, have now become peaceful

elderly ladies, who get enthusiastic

when remembering the good old days,

for example remembering Marshall McLuhan, who in the 1960s was

prophesying that "quite other media"

would determine our perceptions and

our thinking.

At the time his central thesis was that the medium itself was the message. This was radical for the time, but it has proven itself true for a half of the new art which is computer-produced.

The other half possibly corroborates a less joyful thesis of the 1980s. Mediaworker Neil Postman put his finger on it when he said: "We are amusing ourselves to death."

In this theoretical sense the Artware exhibition is a positive and relevant dialogue between the two theses, between praise and criticism of the new technology and its significance for our consumer society.

In reality the exhibits present themselves like a conceptual oasis in the middle of a bustling fair, concerned mainly with commercial interests.

Then there is among other things the popularisation of the new technology, media and methods through their use in art.

For this purpose the new "Doors of Perception," as William Blake (1757-1827) called them, have been opened.

It is strategically meaningful that the computer dimension of aesthetics, displayed in Artware, has been tried out by young artists, many of them female artists, it should be noted.

The exhibition shows that they are not trying to go back to tried and tested compositions by means of the new technology and media.

Identification with our times, done by a younger generation of artists, who are the first generation to grow up in a media world, cannot end up as something simulated. Art and ideas are intended to



Photography per computer.

(Photos: Catalogue)

Lizanne Marrill and Soli Pierce, both from America, concentrate on stylish recycling, for instance. They photograph old, thrown-out display dummies and change them to images of isolated, lonely beings, which become normal human figures to a considerable extent and in an amazing manner through specially prepared software.

Barbara Nussin, also from America, works with CAD, precise and fast. Her pictures of people and masks create a vital language and they have gestures in a way punk-like.

Robert Martin is a computer painter. Paul Earls works with computer-controlled laser imitations.

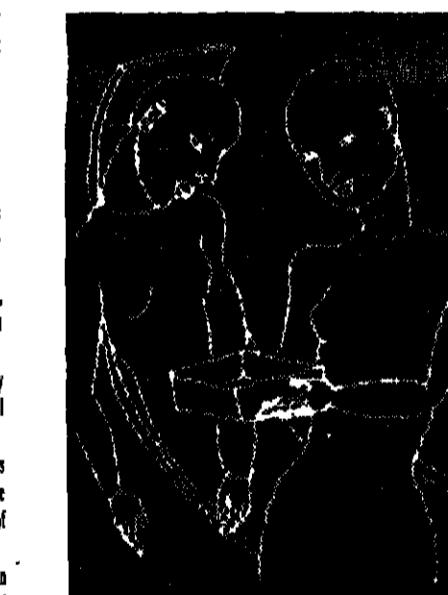
The computer as an artist's tool, as part of the artist's equipment, has begun its victorious way into art's future. It remains to be seen if programming art leads to new heights or depths in the history of art.

The computer will certainly not replace fantasy and inspiration, at the most it will be put to use. The experiment is under way.

Artware leads art purposefully back into a contemporary landscape with relevant technology and with the facts of presentation for today's consumer society.

Norbert Messler

(Die Welt, Bonn, 3 March 1989)



What's my line?

Continued from page 10  
between seclusion and male power. *American Beauty Ltd* by Dieter Marcello presents reflections on hope and disillusion.

The last episode describes his decline. Drink, latent melancholy, painful memories of childhood with his mother and diffident doctor father nibble away at the supports of his life.

Keach has some touching moments. The underlying theme of the film is fulfilled: "no-one is really free until he has looked death in the eye."

The lion-hunter, the bull-fighting minstrel, the war correspondent, who "loved fighting even though it can be nasty," goes to a lot of trouble to find his own death.

In her film *Hare to ke — the special and the mundane*, Regina Ulmer describes the work and life-style of the Ogawa production unit, which has been in existence for 25 years and whose members are like a large family.

Lone-wolf Ogawa's meticulous preparations for a film were most unusual. If a project was in the planning stage the crew set itself up for ages beforehand at

the place where the shooting was to take place.

Rüdiger Neumann's *Nordlicht* is an absolute outsider. It is a tranquil, wordless meditative film. Patiently the camera eavesdrops on nature in the changes of the seasons, collecting impressions:

The film teaches what we have unlearned in our hectic lives, namely seeing and perceiving.

Dirk Schäfer, script-writer and director, reached to the stars for the title of his film. *Die weißen Zwergen*, (The white dwarfs), we are told, are small, weak, shining stars, which go their way and are extinguished at some time.

This is like the banal life of Ramona, the cashier, and Friedrich, the cook. Their relationship functions externally, but in truth it has crumbled.

This is a cool psychological study of his involvement, but a two-and-a-half-hour film is going a bit too far.

In Thorsten Näter's *Sturzflug Willi* (Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 26 February 1989)

and Kurt are dockers, both married, dreaming of Thailand. One day they get there, without their wives of course. They imagine their husbands are at Bad Bramstedt taking a cure.

Thorsten Näter's film is a biting study of men, their self-pity and their showing off.

Thomas Frickel trains the camera on two First World War veterans in his *Schlachtenschnürrn* (Battlefield tour). They fought against France and delight in nostalgic trips.

The hotelier at Verdun advertises for more guests, for the battlefields are still preserved.

Frickel documents and denounces the marketing of the war in his film.

People are again talking in jingoistic terms. Frickel, who wrote the script and directed, is to be commended for his involvement, but a two-and-a-half-hour film is going a bit too far.

Ingeborg Keller (Die Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 26 February 1989)

Eckart Glenske

(Nordwest Zeitung, Oldenburg, 4 March 1989)

## Documentary trend continues with Brecht and Kabul

## DER TAGESSPIEGEL

views, photos, text and film material.

Many details are well-known, but that does not detract from the value of the film in any way.

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views, photos, text and film material.

Many details are well-known, but that

## ■ MEDICINE

## Positive attitudes towards life shown to influence process of aging

**W**hen you're no longer able to cope with a situation a German colloquialism says you are "looking old," meaning you've failed or stand no chance of solving a problem.

Age is thus equated with declining ability and a growing inability to cope — a decline we will all face sooner or later.

Research scientists such as the Nuremberg psychologist Wolf Oswald, who specialises in research into age and the aged, disagree.

They have studied human behaviour and experience in old age and arrived at entirely different conclusions. The physical and mental age we reach depend to a crucial extent, they say, on us and our surroundings.

Wolf Oswald and an Erlangen psychologist, Erhard Ollrich, are in charge of research into the psychology of aging at Erlangen-Nuremberg University.

Findings of a survey carried out in a Nuremberg old people's home show how large a part subjective experience plays in aging. Professor Oswald says:

The survey consisted of asking 145 residents at the home how they felt about old age, and more specifically their own age. A check three years later revealed what percentage of the old people questioned had since died.

The research scientists then evaluated the questionnaires to find out who the survivors might reasonably be expected to be. In 92 per cent of cases the computer eval-

uates we must make a success of and toward which we must play an active part.

The reason for this wide-ranging leeway until old age is the "plasticity" of human behaviour. We don't need our full intellectual potential to cope with life, for one.

"It's like a 125-hp car," Professor Oswald says. "When it is older and can only manage 90 hp no-one worries much in everyday motoring; in ordinary traffic you can still drive fast enough."

Another point is that losses in performance and capacity can in fact be offset. The speed at which the mind processes information declines from the age of 30.

Yet this slowdown is offset by the use of sectors of intelligence that are heavily dependent on practice. They function best later in life.

Surveys have shown that people don't peak in overall intelligence until they are between 40 and 50. So it is wrong to say, geronto-psychologists argue, that everything goes worse as we grow older.

People who stay active, submitting and responding to the stimuli of their surroundings, are best able to keep their minds busy until a ripe old age. They may even boost their performance.

Professor Oswald says, however, tests have shown that too much activity can be as detrimental to performance as too little. So the aim must be "to be active, but to be aware of your limitations and to keep to within them." Making a success of old age is not entirely up to the individual. The in-

stead of referring to aging in terms of destiny, geronto-psychologists see it as a

## Facts about tracts: snorers silenced by vacuum cleaner

**S**noring is the bane of millions of lives — those of the wives (or husbands) who are kept awake by it night after night.

Promising research into the phenomenon is under way at the "sleep laboratory" of the Westphalian health insurance scheme's clinic on the North Sea holiday island of Norderney.

Patients here sleep to the unmistakable accompaniment of their symptomatic snoring. Doctors check whether it is harmless or a sign of respiratory and circulatory upsets accompanied by exhausting bouts of apnoea, or cessation of breathing, and waking up.

"Patients are normally referred to us with chronic respiratory complaints such as asthma or bronchitis," says head surgeon Jürgen Fischer.

"Tests in the sleep laboratory show 25 out of 500 patients to suffer from snoring as a pathological condition."

"This," Dr Fischer says, "is defined as suffering from cessation of breathing for over 100 times a night for periods of between 10 seconds and two minutes."

That they start breathing again at the last minute, so to speak, is due to an alarm sounded by the brain, which wakes the patient up.

He starts breathing again, snoring loudly, goes back to sleep — and the entire procedure is repeated.

"When someone is woken up several hundred times a night 365 nights a year it is bound to have an effect on his daytime performance," Dr Fischer says. One of the most obvious symptoms is a tendency to fall asleep during the day.

fluence of one's surroundings is crucial. The second example Professor Oswald cites is the findings of a survey conducted by colleagues in which residents of an old people's home were split into two groups.

The one continued to be cared for and largely kept institutionalised. The other was told to do reach its own decisions and act on them.

After 18 months the nursing staff felt members of the second group were much the more active, while doctors found them to be far superior in terms of well-being.

During the period nearly 30 per cent of the institutionalised residents died again a mere 15 per cent of the others.

This interface between aging people and their surroundings shows, geronto-psychologists say, how relative the concept of old age is.

The decision on whether someone is able to look after himself is not one I can rely solely on the basis of his or her personal competence. A crucial factor is what level of performance society expects."

Professor Oswald feels many old people are institutionalised merely because society no longer bears its requirements to the abilities of older people.

Feeling useless and unable to remedy the situation, old people who are cast aside sink into a vicious circle of decline.

Yet they might have much to offer. Their special ability is said not to be the merely functioning in a performance oriented society. Their forte is the personal sector.

Which means that old people are capable of establishing a much deeper, richer and more humane relationship with other people than the young — if only they are given the chance.

*Robert Gegner*  
(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt,  
Bonn, 24 February 1989)

Konrad Lorenz, one of the founders of ethology, the scientific study of comparative animal behaviour, has died at his Austrian home aged 85.

He was awarded the 1973 Nobel Prize for medicine and physiology, wrote numerous books and was well known far beyond his biological research for championing nature conservation.

He was showered with honours and tokens of esteem on his 85th birthday last November, but critical notes were also sounded.

He made his name with the decades he spent investigating the behaviour of grey geese. One of his students once called him "the greatest living biologist of our day." The ecological movement revered him as its most celebrated supporter.

He was born on 7 November 1903 in Vienna. His father, Adolf Lorenz, the founder of orthopaedics, already owned the family estate in Altenberg on the Danube.

At his father's request Lorenz first studied medicine in New York and Vienna, then zoology, palaeontology and human psychology.

At Vienna University he taught comparative anatomy and animal psychology.

Continued from page 12

**DIE WELT**

He made his mark not only on behavioural research but on biology as a whole.

Lorenz forecast at an early age that the "life sciences" would come to assume substantial importance in the second half of the 20th century.

In 1973 he, Karl von Frisch and Nikolaas Tinbergen shared the Nobel Prize for physiology and medicine.

In his experiments with animals Lorenz derived particular benefit from his ability to instinctively grasp important laws of nature.

Observation was always the crucial starting point of scientific research as he saw it. This was particularly apparent in his book *Hier bin ich — wo bist Du?* (Here Am I — Where Are You?).

It was published to mark his 85th birthday and summarised yet again his decades of experience of the social behaviour of grey geese.

He began to write books at an early age and earned a reputation far beyond his scientific field as a writer.

He had the gift of describing complicated scientific phenomena in a most entertaining and informative manner.

He then transferred to Münster and, finally, to Seewiesen, Bavaria, where he set up the Max Planck Institute of Ethology and worked until his retirement.

He then returned to Altenberg, where it had all begun, and set up a research unit where he and his many students continued to study the behaviour of grey geese.

In his later years he also studied the behaviour of fish.

When he was 29 he watched a grey goose chick emerging from the egg. To his surprise the chick took him to be its mother and followed him wherever he went.

He soon realised that he had come across a fundamental phenomenon in the animal world. He called this irreversible learning process the "imprint." It can only be made at a certain, sensitive stage of life.

Konrad Lorenz was one of the founders of comparative ethology. He dealt in equal measure with the behaviour of animals and humans, investigating hereditary behaviour and the interface between hereditary and learned behaviour patterns.

The result is amazing. Breathing is suddenly regular and constant, heartbeat regular, oxygen pressure stable.

The only drawback is the cost: the device costs about DM 5,000.

A 50-year-old Essen van driver is one of the patients who have been treated at the Norderney clinic.

"At first I thought I would never fall asleep with the mask on, but I promptly slept well. I haven't felt so rested for ages," he says.

The clinic isn't the only one of its kind in Germany. There are sleep laboratories at Hanover medical college, Marburg polyclinic and Freiburg University.

The experts are convinced more and more sleep laboratories will be set up in the years to come.

The significance of respiratory complaints of this kind and their links with other complaints are growing increasingly apparent.

It is in the interests of the persons concerned that the assessment procedure should not drag on for years.

Continued from page 5

A longer procedure does not mean that the country concerned has a stronger rule of law.

On the contrary, administrative jurisdiction should be based on the principle of speedy processing.

The longer the procedure assessing the justification of the asylum application lasts the more problematic the ban on employment for non-recognised applicants becomes and the more severe the effects of the deportation of the rejected applicant.

A further acceleration of procedure requires decisions and money, but the retention of the current practice represents a burden for the state and makes it more difficult to find dignified solutions to the problems facing the foreigners legally residing in our country.

Manfred Rommel

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 17 February 1989)



Able to simplify the complicated... Konrad Lorenz

(Photo: dpa)

What was envisaged as a reconciliation turned out to be the source of a dispute that has still not been settled.

In his later years Lorenz dealt increasingly with social issues. His *Die acht Todsünden der zivilisierten Menschheit* (The Eight Deadly Sins of Civilised Mankind) showed how the progress of civilisation leads to new behaviour patterns.

His *Der Abbau des Menschlichen* (The Disintegration of the Human Factor) demonstrates, on the basis of the evolutionary theory of cognition, how what originally were natural and meaningful mainsprings of human activity now gradually no longer make sense and, indeed, are becoming dangerous.

They include growth and procreation, competition, and pleasure in the struggle to achieve lofty objectives.

Lorenz the academic had by this stage long abandoned the ivory tower of basic research and ventured into the field of politics, warning against dangers that threatened our environment and reminding us not to overestimate money and power.

He became a committed environmentalist. In 1970 he was one of a small group of leading personalities who advocated improvements in nature conservation.

In 1985 he was one of the initiators of the referendum, later named after him, to stop the construction of a power station in a nature reserve area of the Danube flood plain.

In March 1985 the referendum was endorsed by 350,000 Austrians. After large-scale demonstrations the project was abandoned shortly afterwards.

Despite his advanced age he repeatedly faced interviewers and wrote essays, having no fear of dropping the proverbial brick.

On his 85th birthday he gave an interview in which he mentioned AIDS (amongst many other topics). "In view of overpopulation," he said, "a certain sympathy toward AIDS" was conceivable.

This turn of phrase triggered a landslide of outraged objections. He was mainly accused of viewing the world solely through a biologist's eyes.

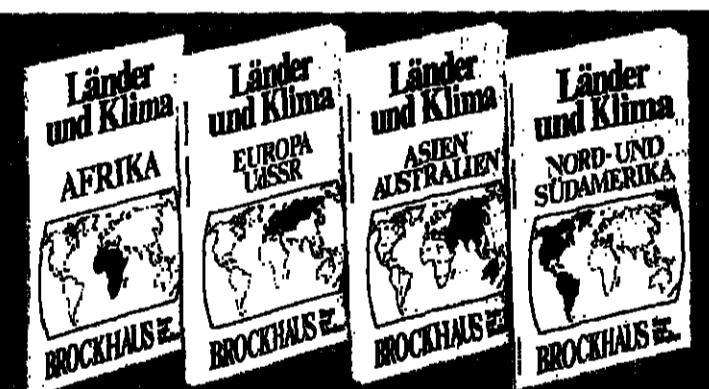
Critics said he was blindly enthusiastic about natural strategies of survival.

Many people who had welcomed his views on nature conservation and his plea for a more human world a few years previously now turned their backs on him in disgust.

Ludwig Kürten

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 17 February 1989)

## Meteorological stations all over the world



supplied the data arranged in see-at-a-glance tables in these new reference works. They include details of air and water temperature, precipitation, humidity, sunshine, physical stress of climate, wind conditions and frequency of thunderstorms.

These figures compiled over the years are invaluable both for planning journeys to distant countries and for scientific research.

Basic facts and figures for every country in the world form a preface to the tables. The emphasis is on the country's natural statistics, on climate, population, trade and transport.

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All this and a good night's sleep

(Photo: AP)

The sleep laboratory is a small, brightly lit hospital room with a bed and bedside table. At the head of the bed there is a shoe box-sized container from which electrode wires hang. A camera is perched on top of the box.

The experts are convinced more and more sleep laboratories will be set up in the years to come.

The significance of respiratory complaints of this kind and their links with other complaints are growing increasingly apparent.

It is in the interests of the persons concerned that the assessment procedure should not drag on for years.

Margit Ekholt/AP

(Westdeutsche Allgemeine, Essen, 3 March 1989)

## ■ FRONTIERS

## Prizing people loose from fascination with occult

**Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger**

**It is not easy to overcome the fascination for the occult.** Gabriele still shudders at the memory of so many evenings spent in sessions with the supernatural.

It was fascinating to be with friends and ask the moving glass to answer questions about the past and the future — and there was also a certain degree of fear about the answers which allegedly came from the other side.

She is now steeled from the onslaughts of demons and ghosts, and successfully fought her obsession for making contact with the dead.

She was helped by the parapsychological advice centre for matters of the occult in Freiburg. This centre, which has been operating since the beginning of this year, is the only one of its kind in the country.

It is supported by the academic society for the promotion of parapsychology and, what is unprecedented, it is given financial support by the employment office.

There are no plans so far to establish such an office in Cologne. In the youth affairs office there is a specialist dealing in general terms with the current enthusiasm for the occult, but advice in individual cases is not given.

Physicist and psychologist Walter von Lucadou, head of the Freiburg advice centre, said: "The problem has to be dealt with in consultation with various disciplines."

He and his colleagues are not content purely in "understanding the matter." They maintain that "in 90 per cent of cases occult phenomena can be explained by natural science."

Walter von Lucadou said without equivocation: "There is no supernatural. That's nonsense. Occult practices themselves are not dangerous in any way."

What can be the undoing of the participants is the conclusions they draw from their experiences during the sessions.

The people who ring up Walter von Lucadou are not talking about figments of their imagination or clairvoyance. He regards his new job as being a "spiritual adviser by telephone." He takes his responsibilities towards people, "who have fallen into another kind of reality,"

**T**he man said he came to Berlin from what is now Zielona Gora in Poland. He spoke in faltering German, saying that he had come the 170 kilometres in a bus. Then he got down to brass tacks.

"Do you want any vodka?" he asked, opening up his conspicuously bulging overcoat.

You can buy the Polish national drink for five marks at the impromptu market in Berlin's Potsdamer Platz. In a Berlin discount shop it costs more than ten.

At the weekend 10,000 Poles came to the Potsdamer Platz to offer their wares. Over the past week there's been a dramatic intensification in this trade.

Seven days before there were only 3,000 who wanted to sell their vodka. Now customs controls have gone all to pieces trying to deal with the flood of tourists."

Officials in Berlin do not know what to do to bring this black market trading to an end.

From early morning Poles stand at the roadside, in parks and at car parking

very seriously. The people concerned and their relatives have problems with this phenomenon as do educationalists, psychologists, psychiatrists and church representatives.

They are also involved in it but most of them are helpless when confronted with the current wave of interest in the occult, in which more and more people are getting involved. But they can all now enlist the assistance of the Freiburg experts.

Gabriele eventually did this. She rang up the centre and spoke about her eerie experiences and sufferings during and after the moves of the glass on the table.

She said that the glass really did move without anyone knowing doing anything.

The truth is that no spirit slipped into the glass. The Freiburg scientists told her: "It moved with normal mechanical energy or muscle power," which came from one of the people taking part in the occult session.

Catholic theologian Andreas Resch is professor for paranormology and clinical psychology at the Lateran University in Rome and an internationally-recognised expert on peripheral questions concerning science.

He said: "The occult includes everything which is not capable of scientific investigation or proof. It gives hope of a certain kind of freedom of movement in a better world."

The experts in Freiburg see things differently. They maintain that "in 90 per cent of cases occult phenomena can be explained by natural science."

Walter von Lucadou said without equivocation: "There is no supernatural. That's nonsense. Occult practices themselves are not dangerous in any way."

What can be the undoing of the participants is the conclusions they draw from their experiences during the sessions.

What explanations do the parapsychologists in Freiburg have for the coherent sentences which are heard during the sessions?

Walter von Lucadou said that involved "psychic automatism. A part of the conscience separates off, which be-

comes independent and consciously delegates actions." He said that this was like driving a car.

"Suddenly you are home but you do not know how you got there."

People with this part of their conscience strongly developed are regarded to be good mediums.

It is this separated part of the conscience which writes the answers to questions put in the occult sessions, he said.

If astonishing answers are given this is because the separated intelligence "has more memory than the conscious I."

A family told of a phenomenon, which seemed at first glance incomprehensible but the Freiburg scientists were able to offer an explanation which was in fact easy to understand.

The family was convinced that by spiritual concentration they could make a compass needle, they had in the house, move.

Physicists and psychologists whom the family had consulted previously did not think that this kind of problem was in their purview.

The scientists in Freiburg confirmed that the needle did actually move and after considerable observation they realised that the motive power was of this world.

They said that it was the lift in the building next door with its huge iron counterweights, which moved the needle when the lift moved up or down its shaft.

In many cases the Freiburg scientists have to "go along with something." A teacher recently turned to them who wanted to know something about the glass-moving game, popular among his pupils.

The Ministry had no intention of the said a Ministry spokesman. "Others we would have called the projects off."

The experiments involved 11 scientists in disciplines ranging from biochemistry, computer science to radiobiology.

Neither the participants in the experiments, that is the diviners, nor the experimenters themselves knew where, in which he and he alone knew.

He got an explanation from Freiburg; although not entirely convincing.

This case was part of the ten-per-cent "failure rate," cases which the scientists in Freiburg cannot explain — or as they say, not yet.

According to Professor Betz water pipes were laid in the basement of barn.

The diviner had to discover its precise location from the storey above.

In another experiment the blindfolded diviner had to find the same spot every time, operating from a balcony in the open air.

Professor Betz said: "Of course the diviner always began from a different starting point and without being able to orient himself."

The professor came to two conclusions in these tests. He said that India first placed most diviners exaggerated their abilities. "They simply did not fit the right spot all that often and did it exactly as they claimed."

He continued: "Some of the participants found the exact spot more frequently, which cannot be explained accidentally entirely."

In the course of the day they had confiscated 11 litres of vodka, 30,000 cigarettes, 360 grams of caviar and an arctic fox valued at DM1,200.

The customs officers caught a big dealer in the illegal trade. In this case alone they found 42 kilos of butter, 30 kilos of cheese and 30 kilos of meat.

Deals are done in sign language. A pair of cotton socks cost DM1.50, three sausages cost four marks, three tins of sardines or half a pound of butter one deutschmark.

Vodka and cigarettes are not so cheap. Customs officers keep an eye on these items.

Whenever one of the Polish traders begins to whisper it is always about vodka.

West Berlin is only 80-kilometres

Continued on page 18

Cologne, 17 February 1989

## Scientists try to divine the watery truth

**Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger**

Laymen are not the only ones to have divided views on the merits of divining rods: scientists also disagree among themselves on their value.

Some believe the activities of the diviner are nonsense and superstitions, others believe that there is something in it, and put their confidence in the divining rod.

Scientists in Munich have been trying to throw some light on the matter. Hans-Dieter Betz, a physics professor in Munich, is one of the two heads of an investigation into divining rods.

The findings are to be made public in April, but he had some comments to make in advance: "Our work over the past two years has shown that it is most probable that the results are not accidental."

Professor Betz was circumspect because the project has been criticised considerably.

The Association for Scientific Investigation of Para-science suspects that there are loopholes in the research arrangements.

In an open letter to the Scientific Research Ministry in Bonn the association said that its experiments had been supported by grants worth DM400,000.

But, the letter said, research projects in the Federal Republic should not be held up to public ridicule, international ridicule in fact.

The Ministry had no intention of the said a Ministry spokesman. "Others we would have called the projects off."

The experiments involved 11 scientists in disciplines ranging from biochemistry, computer science to radiobiology.

So it is no wonder that Gisela Sternen has inevitably developed an international manner of referring to her children: Mark the African; the oldest son, who was born in Lower Saxony, Neustadt am Rübenberge. He now has little chance to use his African hunting experience because he is living in an Egyptian tourist resort, Luxor, where his father, Reinhold Sternen, working for a German development agency, has for a year been preparing a hotel school which is to be handed over to the Egyptians.

Hans Georg Löber is a psychologist at the Carl Duisberg Centre in Cologne, an institute which is involved internationally in training and further education. He says that living in a foreign country can be a source of enrichment for children. Löber himself spent some years of his childhood in Africa.

"In a foreign country, a child gains a different perspective. Its horizons are broadened." Children learn languages easily, are open to new norms and values and, can, without working at it, become a little citizen of the world. This was an age of an awareness of other cultures.

Lars Hayer is 13. He was newly born when his parents, who had already been in Tanzania and Morocco, went to Tunisia where his father, agriculture engineer Frank Hayer, went to work on a development-aid project. Lars grew up in North Africa. When the family came back to Germany, he had no problem adapting to life here. Herr Hayer said his son "passed his exams brilliantly."

Now the family is back in Africa, in the Egyptian provincial capital of Marsah Matruh. Here, there is a slight end-of-the-world atmosphere, but that doesn't worry Lars. It is more a problem for his mother.

Father Frank works here on a project aimed at improving the fundamentals of life for the local Bedouins. Women barely figure in public life. So Frau Hayer goes mostly with her son when she goes shopping.

He is a correspondence school pupil and so far has found no friends here to spend his leisure time with, but he gives

## ■ HORIZONS

### Little globetrotters don't always learn tolerance

**Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger**

and bathroom. Now it has the use of a small third room.

When Mark sees his parents, his thoughts inevitably turn to the school. His mother teaches him day out, day in, with correspondence material. And his father keeps the papers locked away at the hotel school so Mark can't get his hands on them in advance.

Luxor is for Mark not an alien place. On the contrary. He has bravely built his life here, visits and goes out with many Egyptian families and has picked up a fluent knowledge of Arabic.

His eyes still wander over the streets as if he is searching for animal trails. Outdoors, he walks with head a little lowered so that he can better see the ground.

He has become a bit of a young man about town and, wherever his father goes, Mark has already been. Mark's influence can be seen in the name of the people of Luxor, which means "father of Mark."

The Egyptian hospitality has many things easier for Mark, but he is still used to standing on his own two feet. He has done that from early childhood.

In Gambia he went through what happens to almost all boys who come in contact with outsider groups — he was given beatings by the locals.

Frau Sternen remembers: "He didn't let that intimidate him. He persevered until he was in the end accepted and went catching with them."

Jessica finds it hard to envisage living in Germany. Not only does she speak fluent Arabic, but the Egyptian way of life has left strong influence on her. Her mother, Elke, is often a target of criticism.

For example she criticises her mother for wearing a fairly modest T-shirt which the daughter said felt too much skin showing and was therefore unsuitable for wearing at an Egyptian camel market.

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When she visits Germany, Jessica is regularly alarmed at the coolness and distance which people maintain to and between each other.

It is clear that the integration into a native land which has become a foreign land can be a problem after a long spell overseas, especially if that stay was in only one foreign country.

Sometimes, Reinhold Sternen's concern is not entirely clear, either. He is worried because Mark has no settled classroom community in Luxor and is able to make no lasting friendships like at boarding school. "There are things that are lacking in his life," says Herr Sternen reflectively. "We often make trips with him, but obviously that is no substitute for adventures with friends."

On the other hand, Mark has experiences that very few other German children have. And: "Life in Egypt is not as artificial as Germany, where a leisure industry with television and cinema lures the children."

Frau Marold says that *Konsument* and *Mode-Diktat* are to a large extent unknown in foreign countries. On the contrary: "The (German) children are more spontaneous because every day they are faced with the problem of coming to terms with a strange environment."

It is true that time spent in a foreign country does not necessarily make people tolerant and open. White people often live in ghettos in the Third World and, in these cases, contact with the locals is usually restricted to domestic staff. Löber: "There are people who come home after say, five years in Nigeria, and have only negative views to relate. That attitude naturally transmits itself to the children."

He has established that among people living in foreign lands, there is a greater proportion with racist views.

He says they are those who have not been able to come to terms with adjustment crises in a foreign culture. This also is transmitted to the children."

Paul Duwe

(Nürtinger Nachrichten, 27 February 1989)

Peter Pauls

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 4 March 1989)



Not for women alone. Lars Hayer, 13, and mother shopping in Marsah Matruh, northern Egypt.